

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/805,260	NONAKA ET AL.
	Examiner Stephen Elmore	Art Unit 2186

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address—

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to application papers filed 3/22/2004 - 6/3/2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-28 renumbered as 1-12.
3. The drawings filed on 22 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/22/04, 4/8/05
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.


STEPHEN C. ELMORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Amendment and Reasons for Allowance

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney Daniel Stanger, Reg. No. 32,846, on August 16, 2005.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

correcting a spelling error,

Claim 17, line 7, replace "processor" with --processor--;

correcting a typographic error,

Claim 17, line 12, replace "in" with --into--;

correcting antecedent basis problems,

Claim 17, line 37, replace "a disk array" with --the disk array--;

Claim 20, line 3, replace "control program" with --controller management program--;

Claim 23, line 6, replace "a disk array" with --the disk array--;

Claim 26, line 3, replace "control program" with --controller management program--.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In independent claims 17 and 23, directed towards a storage system and a method of operating a storage system, the following features taken in combination with the remaining limitations of the independent claims are not found in and or are not obvious in view of the prior art of record,

Claim 17,

the features,

"the NAS controller ... configured to convert a file I/O command ... into a block I/O command" and,

"after reception of the completion notice of the initialization of the NAS memory, the SAN controller is arranged to transmit the command conversion program stored in the disk array to the NAS memory by executing the NAS controller management program and to transmit a completion notice of the program transmission, and after reception of the completion notice of the program transmission, the NAS controller is arranged to start execution of the command conversion program."

Claim 23,

the features,

"transmitting a command conversion program stored in a disk in the disk array from the SAN controller to the NAS controller to be stored in the NAS controller, after reception of the completion notice of the initialization of the NAS memory by the SAN controller, by executing a NAS controller management program stored in the SAN memory; transmitting a completion notice of the transmission of the command conversion program;" and,

"converting ... a file I/O command ... into a block I/O command using the command conversion program".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Elmore whose telephone number is (571) 272-4436. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

August 16, 2005

Stephen Elmore
STEPHEN C. ELMORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER